

Inferior Conjunctival Autograft for Primary Pterygia: A Surgical Advantage

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ABSTRACT

This was a prospective non-comparative interventional case series study enrolling 25 eyes of 25 patients with primary pterygium between June 1, 2014 and April 30, 2015. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the outcome of pterygium excision with inferior conjunctival autografting for primary pterygium using autologous blood for sutureless grafting. All patients underwent the standard surgical technique for pterygium excision with inferior conjunctival autografting. The study variables were complications of surgery and recurrence rates during a follow-up period of 6 months. The mean age of the patients was 43 ± 7.97 (range 26–64) years. The mean size of conjunctival autograft was 3.2×4.5 mm. No complications did occur. There was conjunctival scarring at the donor site in 4 patients, and there was no symblepharon formation or restriction of upgaze. Inferior conjunctival autograft of 6'O Clock position instead of routine graft from 12'O Clock position is an effective technique with a low recurrence rate. This is a useful technique when it is not possible or desirable to use the superior conjunctiva as a donor source. It is an especially good option for preserving the glaucoma filtration site for the future.